

AUG 17 1960

Nixon Denies U-2 Case Puts U. S. on Trial

'Terrible Reflection
Of Soviet Justice'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16 (UPI).— Vice-President Nixon said today there could not have been a more "terrible and devastating reflection on Soviet justice" than for the Russians to say this country is on trial rather than U-2 pilot Francis G. Powers.

Mr. Nixon told reporters that Mr. Powers is "entitled to a trial on the merits as far as his individual actions are concerned."

The Republican Presidential candidate was asked about the Soviet statements after attending a luncheon with policy advisers here.

"Not Real Justice"

He said that if the Soviet government was admitting it is "more concerned about international repercussions" than about Mr. Powers as an individual, "they in effect are pointing up criticisms of Soviet justice."

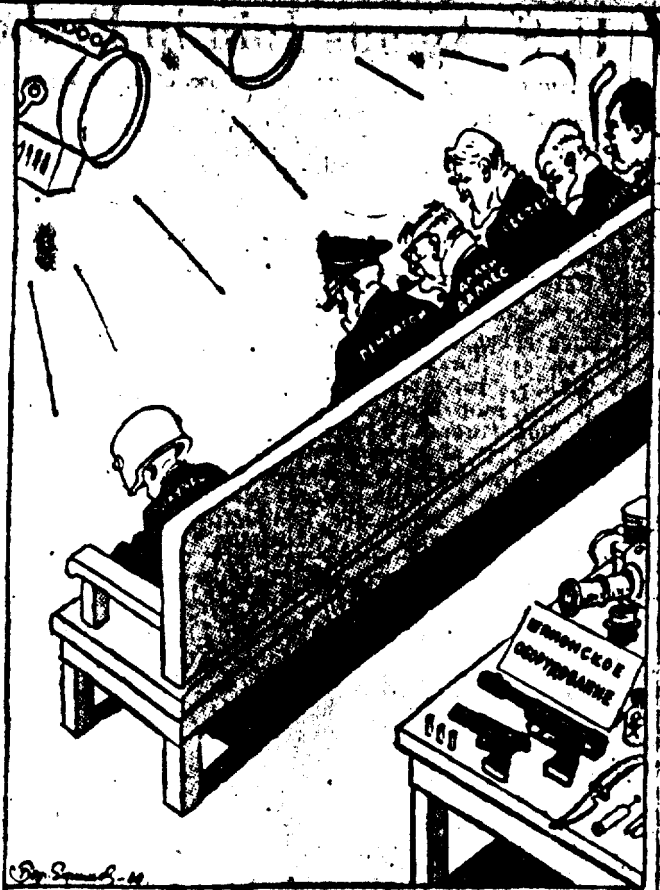
"It is not real justice as we know it," Mr. Nixon said.

He replied in the negative when asked if the Powers espionage trial, which starts tomorrow in Moscow, will hurt American prestige.

Backs President

"The people of the free world and sophisticated people behind the Iron Curtain are aware that the United States was simply trying to protect itself against surprise attacks," he said.

Mr. Nixon said these people



Associated Press

AS SOVIET PRESS SEES POWERS' TRIAL—This cartoon, which appeared in the Soviet newspaper "Izvestia," depicts the American government on trial with United States flyer Francis G. Powers. Left to right: Mr. Powers, the Pentagon, C. I. A. head Allen W. Dulles, President Eisenhower and Vice-President Nixon.

also are aware that the Soviet Union engages in espionage.

"I can only say that all Americans regardless of party affiliations will support the President in his decision to put the security of the United States first," Mr. Nixon said. Asked if there is anything the

United States can do about the outcome of the Powers trial, he said "the United States government . . . can do very little about the outcome of that trial."

"The Soviets have made it clear they intend to conduct it on their own rules," Mr. Nixon said.